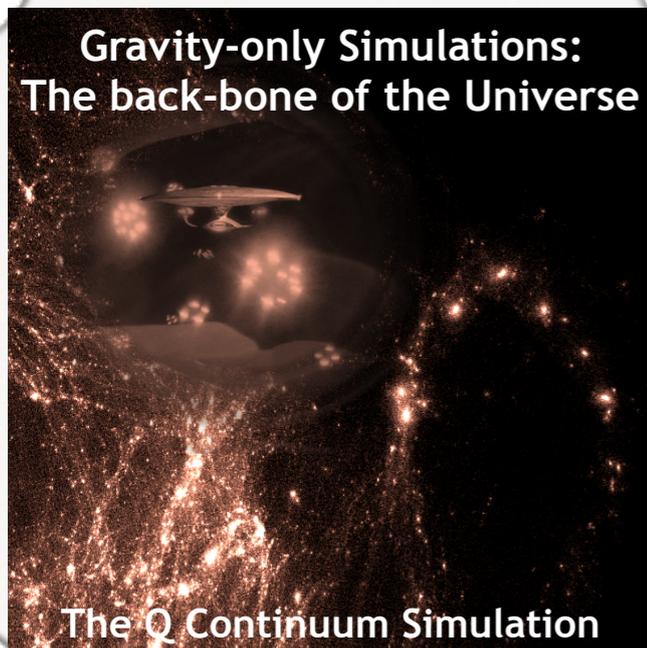


# Simulation and Modeling Challenges

Katrin Heitmann

Cosmic Visions Midwest Meeting, November 10, 2015

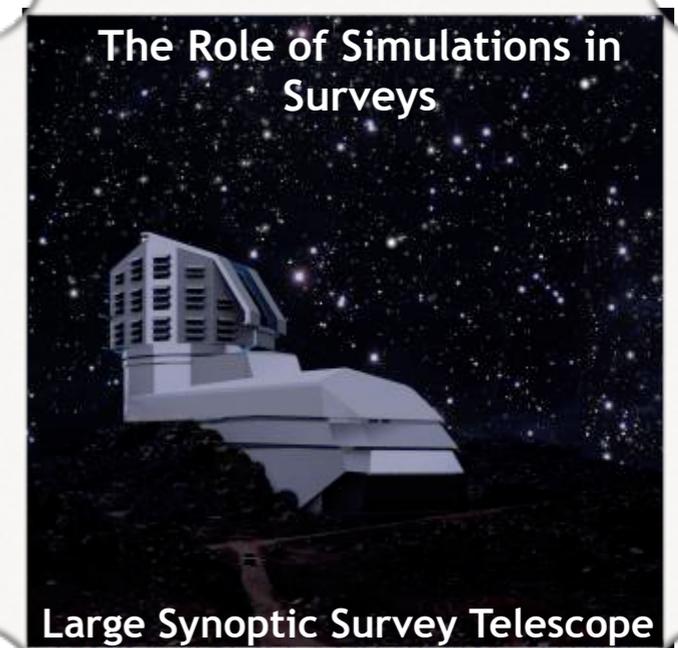
Gravity-only Simulations:  
The back-bone of the Universe



The Galaxies



The Role of Simulations in  
Surveys





# The Dark Energy Survey

probe origin of Cosmic acceleration:

Distance vs. redshift  
Growth of Structure

two multicolor surveys:  
100 M galaxies over 5000 s.d.

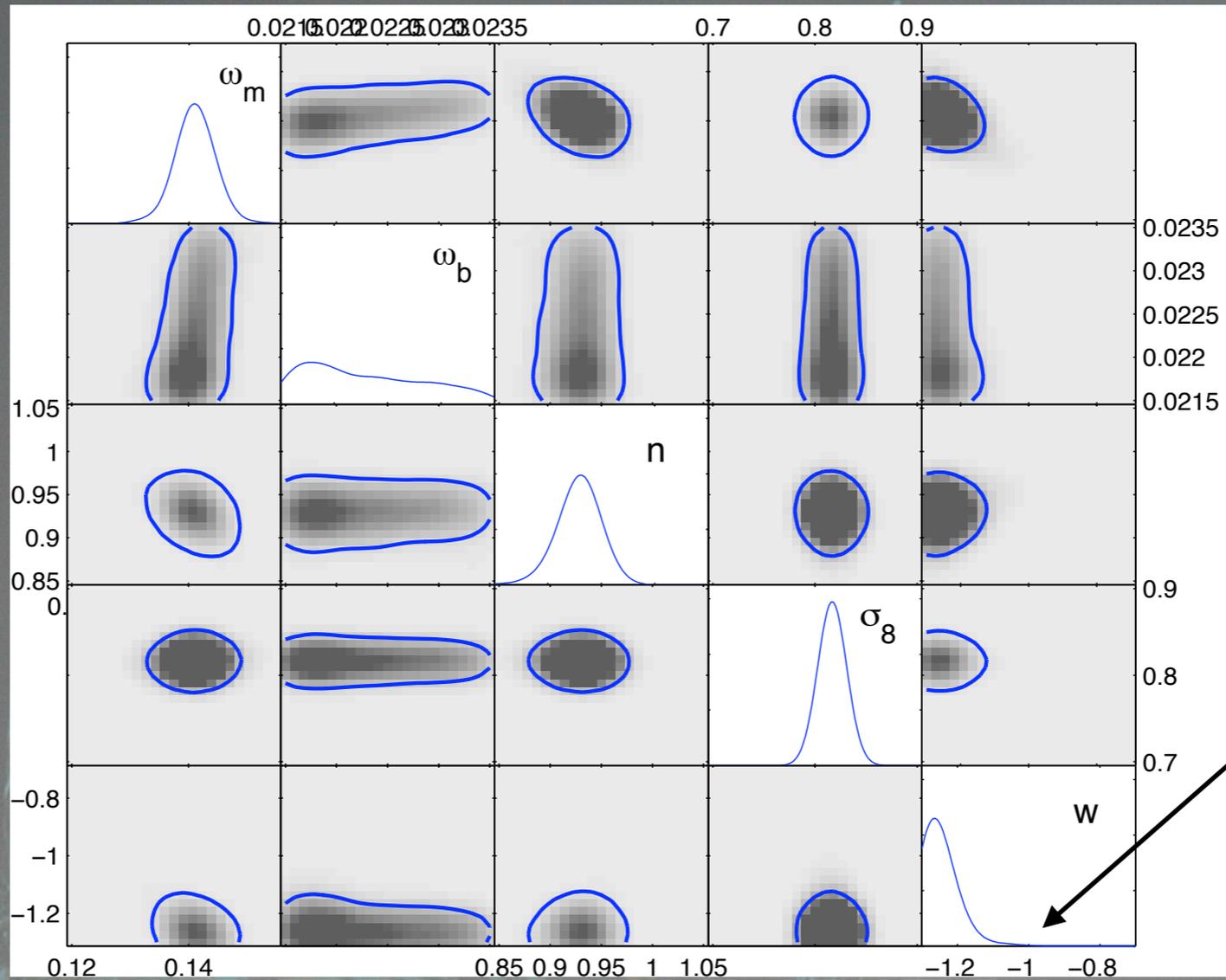
zY to 24<sup>th</sup> mag  
1000 supernovae (30 sq deg)

new camera for CTIO  
panco telescope

imaging instrument, 30% time  
year Survey started

31, 2013

observing nights (Aug.-Feb.)

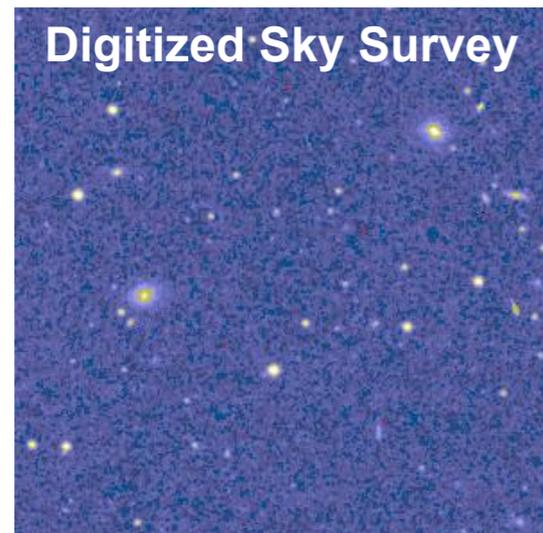


[www.darkenergysurvey.org](http://www.darkenergysurvey.org)



# Roles of Simulations in Survey Science

Past



## (1) Solving the Inverse Problem

- Exploring fundamental physics
- Fast, very accurate predictions tools (emulators) for physics and observables of interest
- Astrophysical “systematics”
- Predictions for covariances

Present



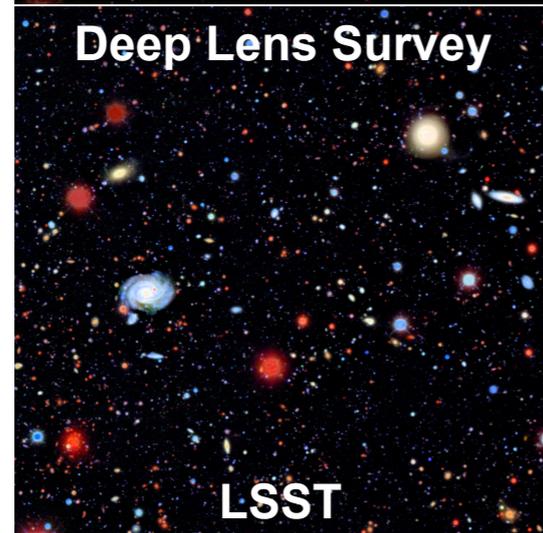
## (2) Cosmology simulations and the survey

- End-to-end simulations
- Control of systematics

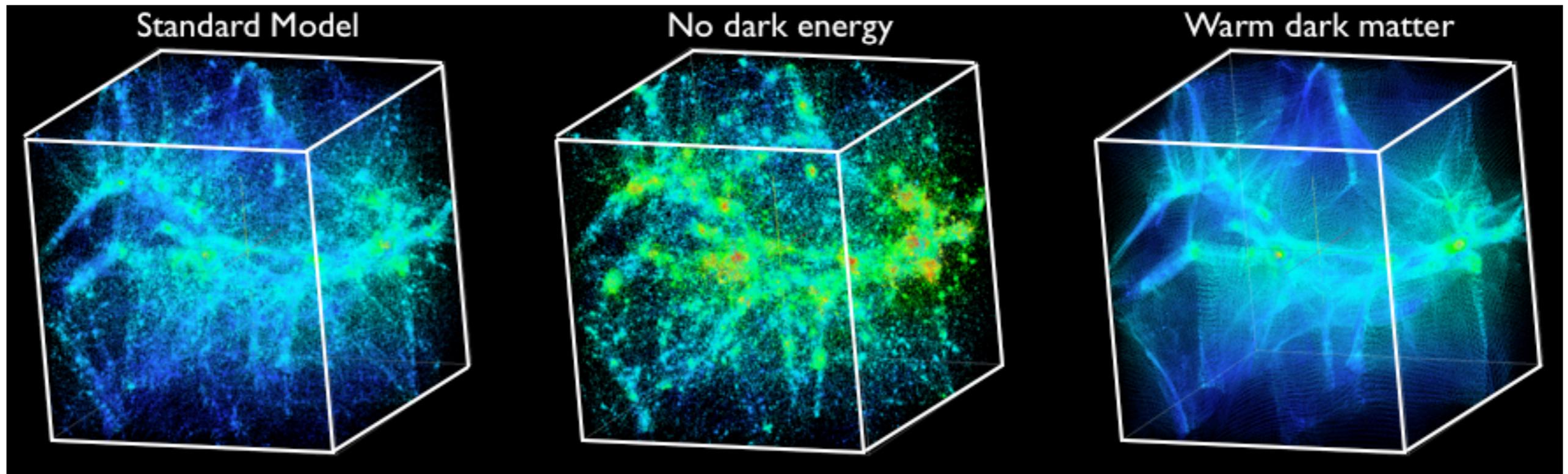
Cosmology → Mock catalogs → Atmosphere → Optics → Detector → Images

from the LSST Science Book

Future



# Exploring Fundamental Physics

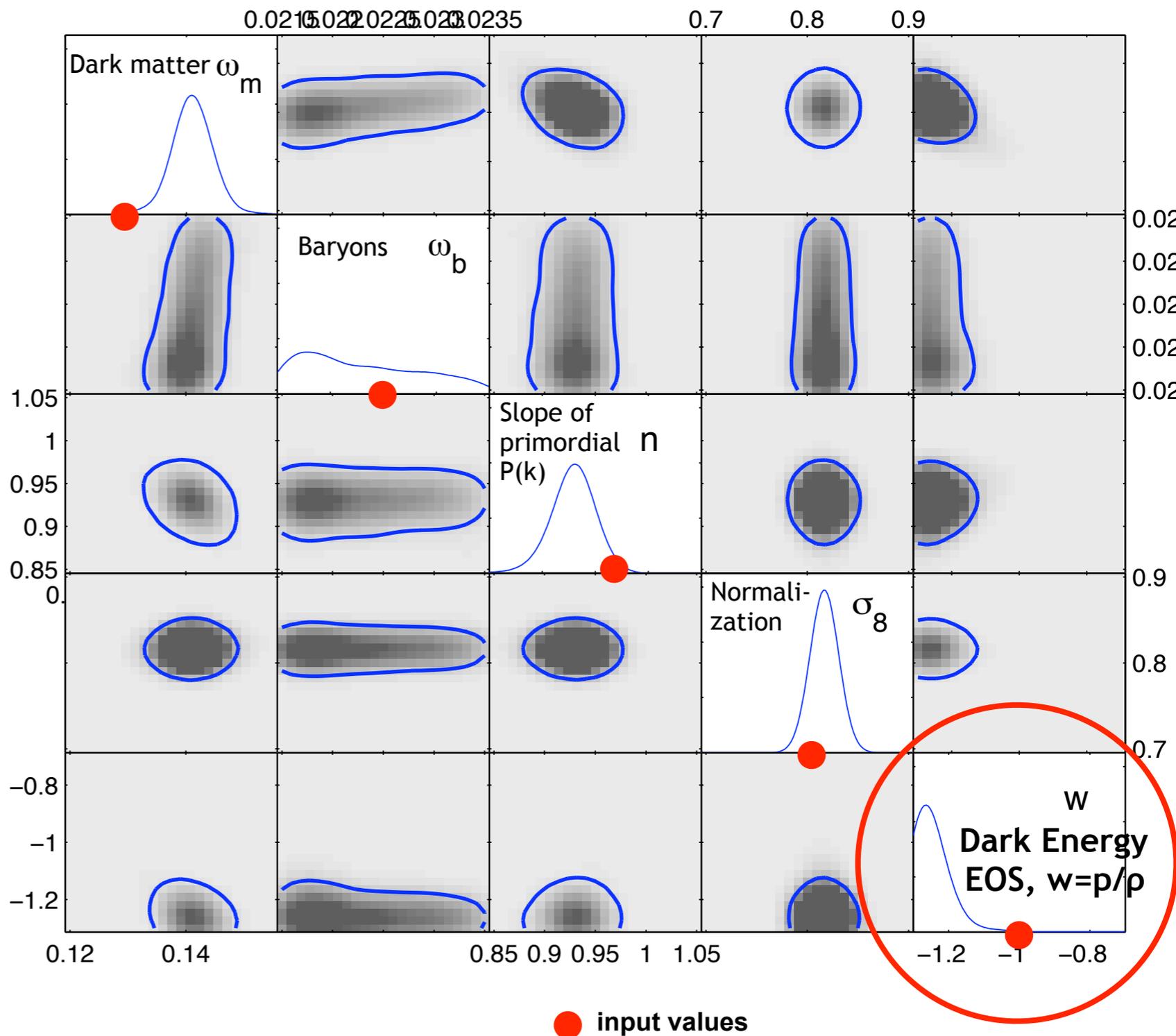


- **Exploration of different dark energy (DE) models and modified gravity (MG)**
  - Dynamical DE:  $w_0$ - $w_a$  parametrization easy to implement, but neglects perturbations
  - MG: How to explore model space, costly simulations, nonlinear scales essential
- **Exploration of dark matter and neutrinos in the Universe**
  - Neutrino simulations are challenging, approximate methods have been developed, but are they accurate at 1% over the  $k$ - and  $z$ -range needed?
  - Self-interacting dark matter has been explored, push to smaller scales?

# Accurate Prediction Tools

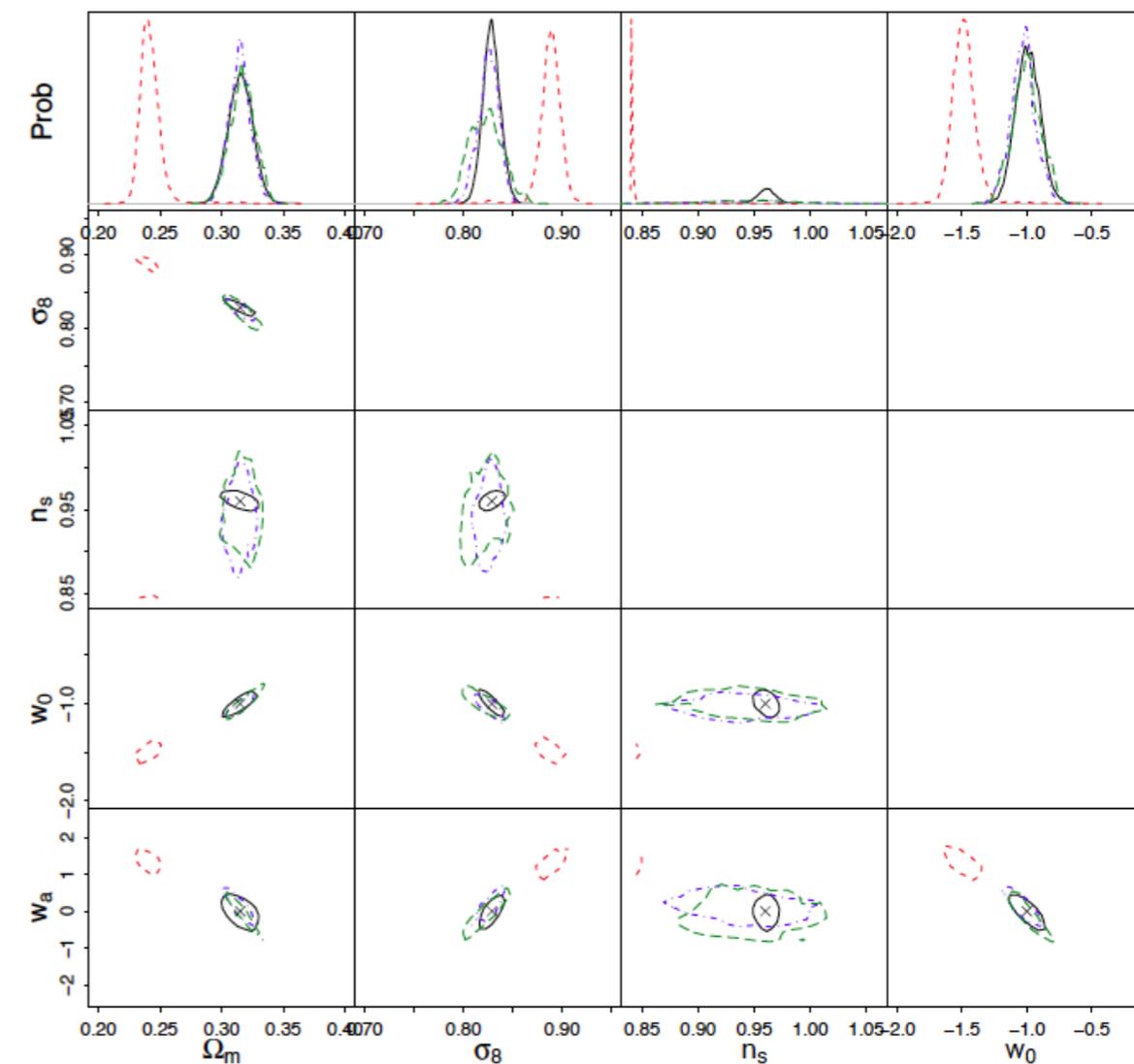
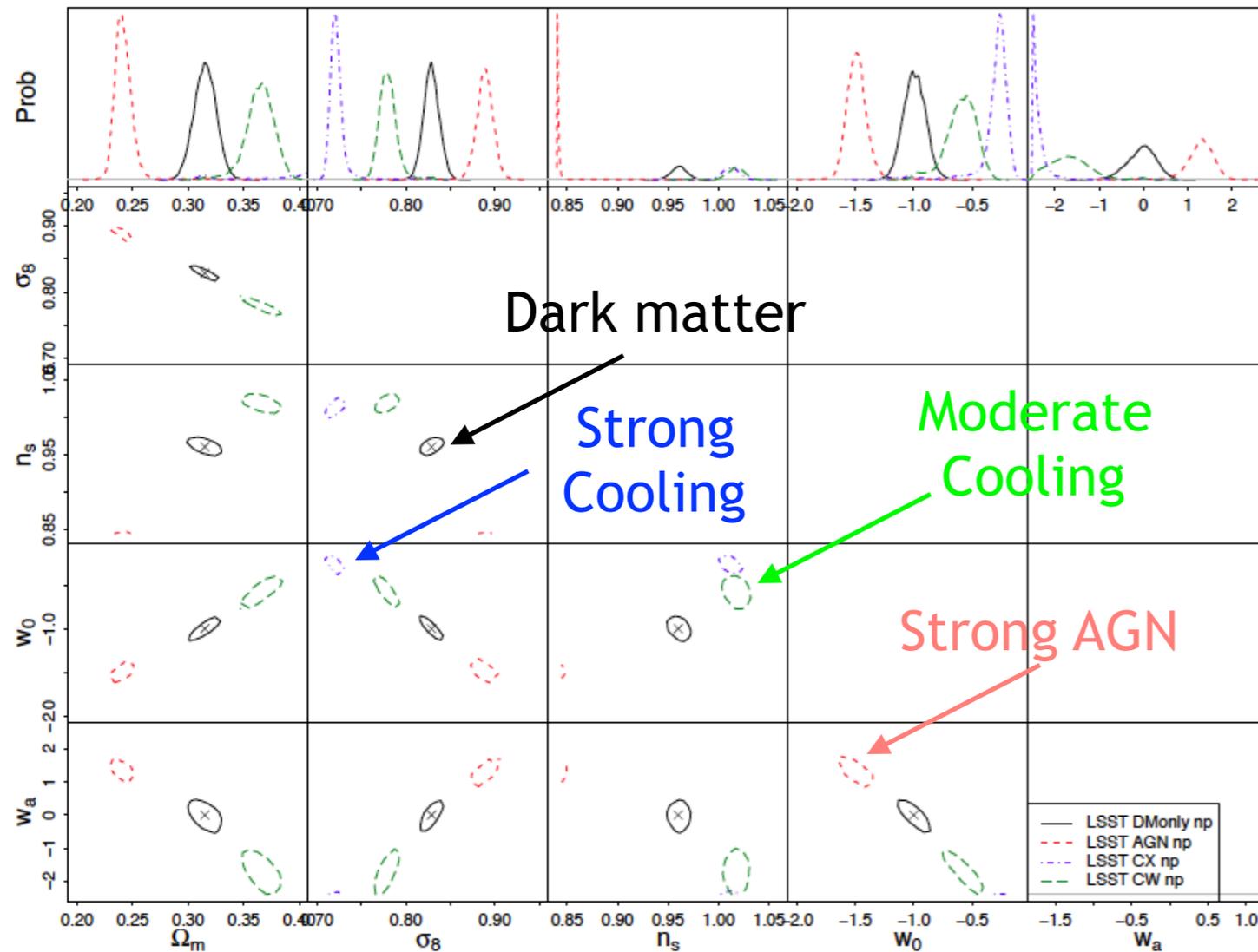
*Heitmann et al. 2014*

- Generate mock data from high-resolution simulation (out to  $k \sim 1$  h/Mpc), focus on  $P(k)$  for this example
- Use Halofit for analysis (5-10% inaccurate on quasi-linear to nonlinear scales)
- Parameters are up to 20% wrong! (We checked that with more accurate predictions the answer is correct)
- Over-simplified, but:
- We need predictions at the 1% level accuracy for diverse observables (“LSSFast”), including a range of cosmological parameters and astrophysical effects have to be under control



# Astrophysical Effects

- Astrophysical effects (baryons, bias, intrinsic alignments etc.) can mimic new physics
- More severe on small scales, but those are the scales we hope to get more information
- Need to be able to model/bracket these effects (e.g. Eifler et al.), or disregard some of the information available (e.g. Krause et al. 2015, Simpson et al. 2015)



LSST/Euclid constraints, baryonic effects unaccounted

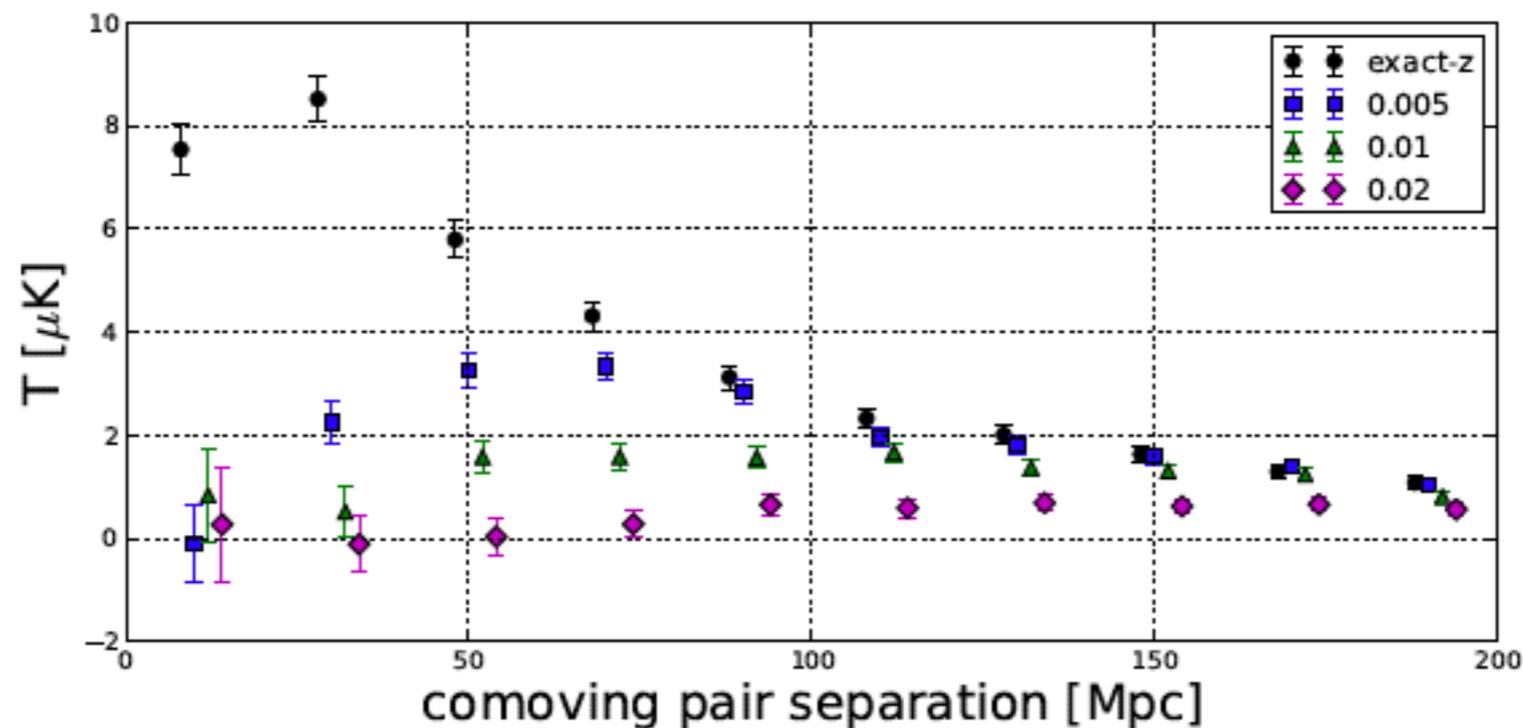
Mitigation via PCA marginalization

*Eifler et al. 2015*



# Control/Tests of Systematics, Pipelines, and Analysis Tools

- Simulations and simulated maps are essential to test analysis strategies and pipelines
- Modeling and maybe mitigation of systematics in the data that are not of physical origin but rather due to limitations in our data (e.g. photo-z errors, mis-centering, cosmic variance, etc.)
- Challenge: Synthetic maps have to be as close to reality as possible and cover large area
  - Very high mass resolution required for LSST/DESI
  - Modeling of galaxies not an easy task (HAM, SAM, SHAM, ...)
  - Validation very important but difficult (data curation, data availability etc.)

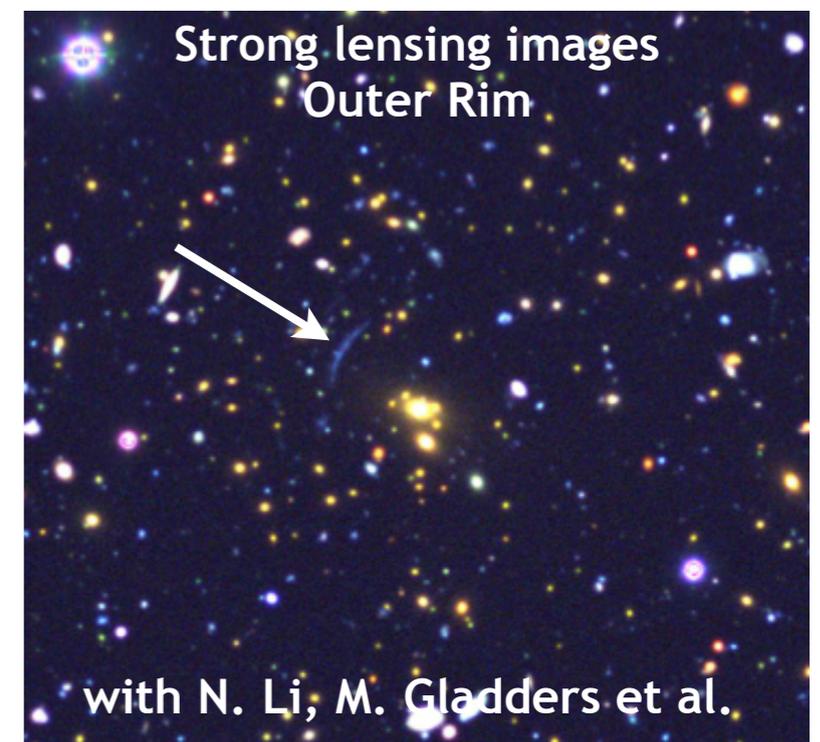
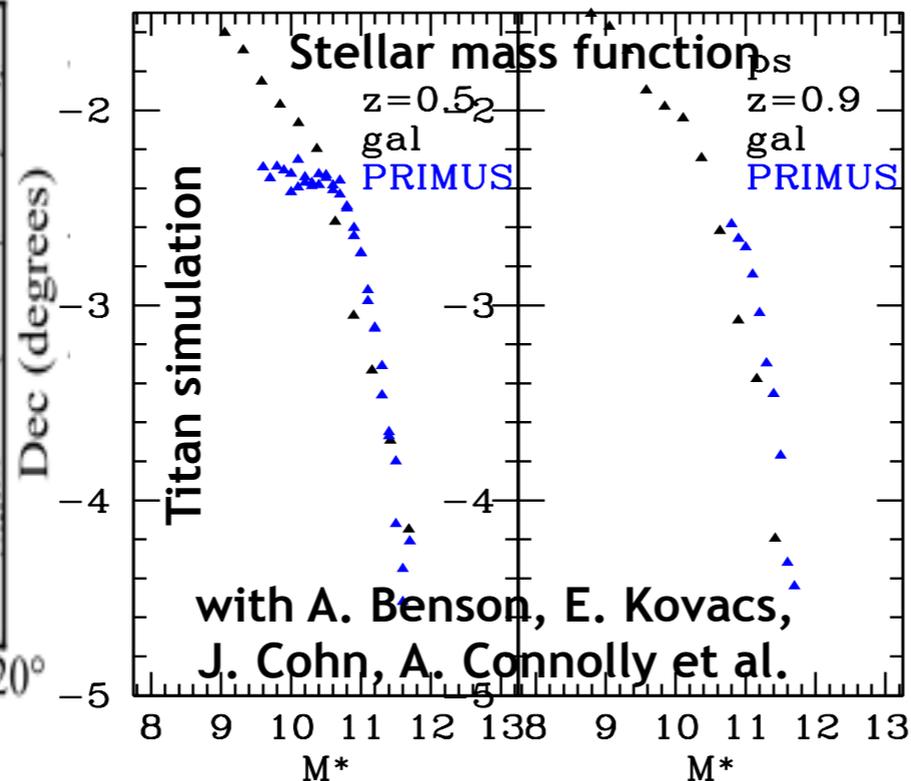
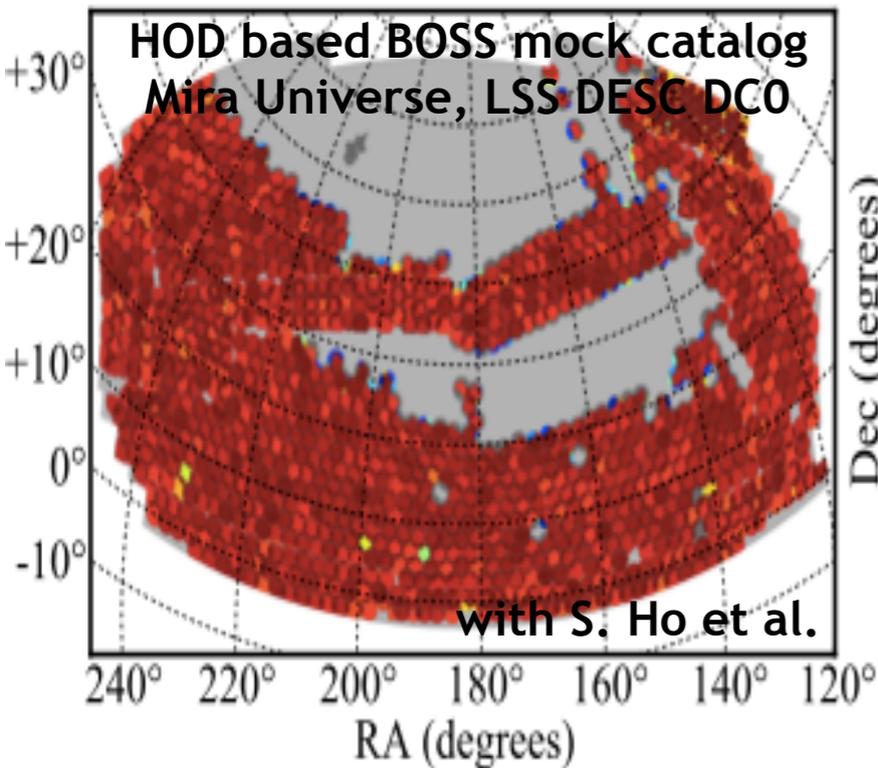
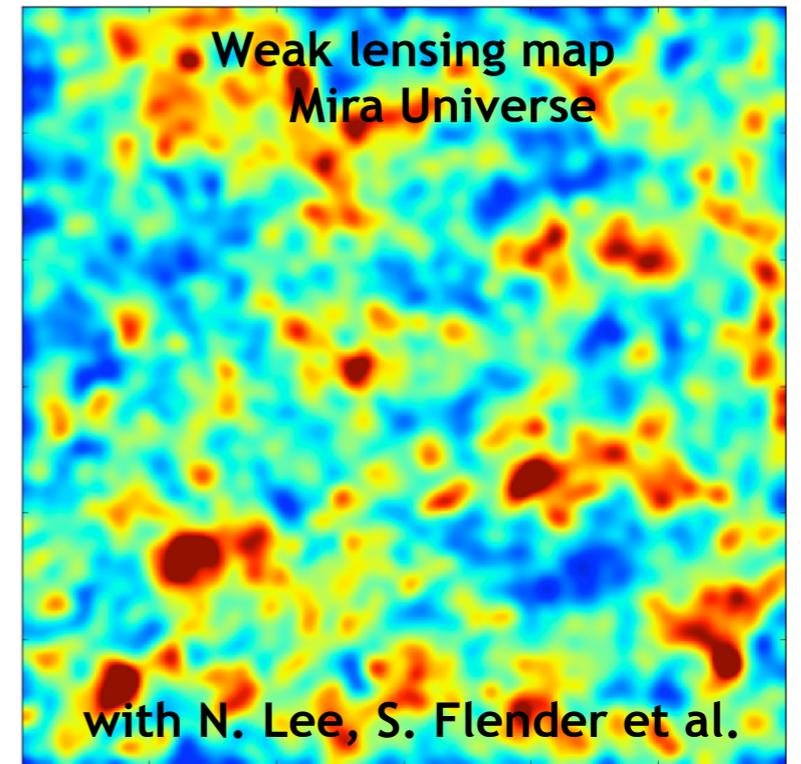
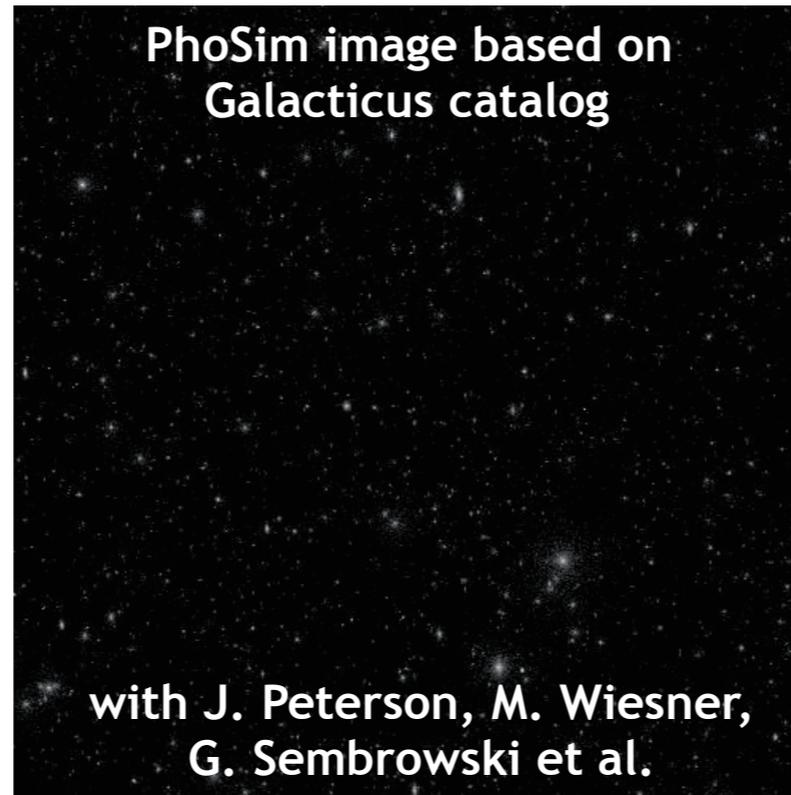
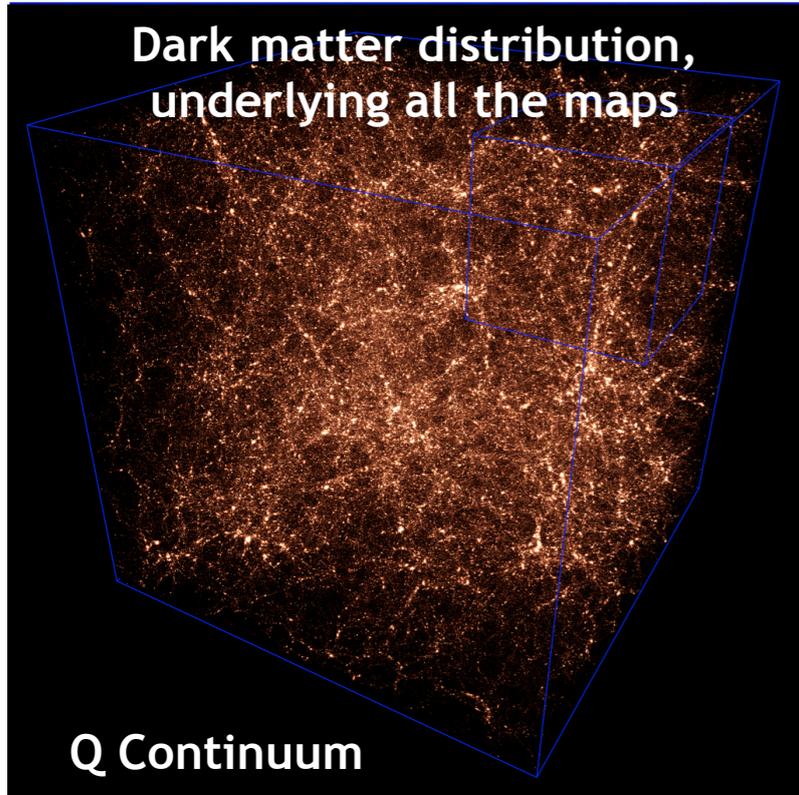


Pairwise kSZ signal for different errors in redshift estimates

*Flender et al. 2015*



# Examples for Synthetic Sky Maps



# Summary of Challenges for LSST, DESI, and Beyond

- If we see “new physics”, how do we convince ourselves that we are not looking at systematics?
- Simulations and modeling play an important role for survey science
- Understanding/modeling of astrophysical effects and systematics (for each probe we can list several ... clusters: mass calibration; weak lensing: baryonic physics, IAs; strong lensing: baryonic physics; etc.)
- Testing of pipelines and analysis tools
- Predictions for new physics, exploration of new probes
- Data challenges rely on simulations
- Upcoming surveys require very high mass resolution, gravity-only as well as hydro simulations, different cosmologies, large ensembles for covariances ...
- We need concerted effort for modeling and simulating surveys in a similar way as high-energy physics experiments

